

After Christmas Clear-Up Begins on Saturday

This "Clean Up" will affect short stocks and odd lots of the best merchandise we have ever carried. Our stocks were never brighter, never cleaner, never newer; probably that is why we were favored with the Greatest Volume of Christmas Business in our History. This CLEAN-UP will last but a few days, and without a doubt, that which is offered on Saturday will not be repeated on Tuesday.

The Values Are Tempting—The Merchandise Is New. Come at 8.30 A.M. Saturday and Share in the Rare Savings Afforded

Rush Sale of Boxed Chocolates

Every Fancy Christmas Box of Chocolates Will Be Sold Saturday at Exactly Half Price

Neilson's, Ganong's and Lowmyer's, sold regularly from 75¢ to \$5.50. Approximately 300 boxes in all. Sale commences Saturday 8:30 a.m. This does not include our regular lines.

Clear-Up of Women's Neckwear

Some of the neck fixings are slightly soiled, others are as crisp as the day they were selected. Large cape collars, fine Swiss roll collars, flat collars, lace edge collars, gaudy collars, colored collars, piping collars.

Values to \$1.00 for **25c**

Fancy Satin Novelties Half Price

Dot Cushions, Work Baskets, Sweet Grass Baskets, Work Baskets in Crochet and Satin, Pin Cushions, Sewing Sets, Satin Coat Hangers, etc. Values 35¢

Half-Price

Attractive Jewelry Low Priced

Gents' Cut Links and Tie Pins, La Valliers, Fancy Brooches, Belt Buckles, Bar Pin Beauty Pins, Earrings, Hair Ornaments, Combs, Rings, Scarf Clasps, etc. Many articles worth more than 25¢.

The clear-up price **50c**

Ladies' Rings

Regular to \$5.00 For \$2.50

LOT 1—Newest and prettiest designs for the season, pearl settings in solid sterling, or fancy stone settings in newest effects, also enamel designs. Values to \$5.00

Very special **\$2.50**

Values to \$10.00 For \$5.00

LOT 2—This assortment comprises large dinner rings, large and heart rings, moonstone, colored and rhinestone effects all setting settings. Values to \$5.00

Extra special **\$5.00**

Handkerchiefs, Regular to 25¢ For 5¢

Perfect handkerchiefs in every respect, but need a little laundering. They were used for display purposes and counter effects. In the lot are all linen, fancy lawn, fine Swiss colored, embroidered, etc. Rush price

for the clear-up, each **5c**

JAMES RAMSEY

Phone Private Exchange 9311

STORE ENTRANCES—101st St., 102nd Ave., 100A St. and 101A Ave.

Store Closes Saturday at 6 P.M.

Wonderful Sale of Men's Fine Flannel Shirts

The result of a lucky purchase. Men's better shirts of fine English and Scotch flannels, silk and wool, taffetas, etc. These shirts are worth much more than their marked prices. Some have high collar attached, but the majority are mad with double cuffs and one separate collar to match, some have two collars. On sale Saturday at 8:30 at bargain prices.

Regular to \$2.50 **\$1.95** Regular \$3.25, \$3.50, \$3.75, \$4.00,

\$2.75 and \$3.00, for **\$1.95** and \$0.45, for **\$2.45**

Clearing Men's Tweed Suits, Regular Values to \$15.00, For \$6.95

Clearing lines from regular stock in serviceable good wearing tweeds of medium and dark dark patterns. Made up in single three-button models. A full range of sizes from 36 to 46. They will go quickly at this

ridiculously low price **\$6.95**

Half Price For Men's Dressing Gowns; Regular \$10.00 to \$15.00, Clear-up

Price \$5.00 to \$7.50

Blanket cloths in greys and tan, plain finished robes. A limited number only, shades and mixed patterns. Well made and

Priced regularly from \$10.00 to \$15.00. Saturday

sale **\$5.00 to \$7.50**

MEN'S WOOL SOX—Just One-Third of Their Regular Price

About 500 pairs of our regular 25¢ wool socks, not damaged in any way. Our idea is to cause a sensation in the men's sex section Saturday morning. (Limit of six pairs to a customer and no phone orders). Bargain price

3 Pair **25c.** for

Plenty of Boys' Better Sweater Coats

We were fortunate in securing a good quantity of in plain as well as combination colors. Rib knitted from good worsted yarn. To fit boys aged 8 to 14 years.

Military Collars, at **\$2.50** Shawl Collars, at **\$3.00**

Saturday 25c Lunch

OYSTER STEW CHICKEN PIE
BEEF AND BEEF
APPLE PIE A LA MODE
TEA, COFFEE OR MILK

Our Annual January Sale of Embroidery Mill Ends Is the Greatest Event of the Season

Saturday we will stage the most sensational embroidery event witnessed in the city for some time. Owing to the long continuation of the war Swiss embroideries are becoming more scarce and harder to secure every day. Over one year ago we contracted with one of the largest manufacturers of Swiss embroidery in St. Gall for this lot, and considering the values today and what can be bought on the markets, we do not hesitate in saying that the values offered in this January event have never been surpassed—**THE QUALITY IS THE BEST—THE STOCK IS ALL PERFECT AND SNOWY WHITE—THE DESIGNS ARE NEW—THE SAVINGS REPRESENTED HERE ARE INDEED RARE.** Below are a few lines included for this big event. See window display.

7 to 16-inch Fine Swiss Cambric Embroidery. Values to 20¢. Satin, lace, etc. A large and extensive range of attractive patterns with work design to the depth of 8 inches. Made of 100% silk, with scalloped and lace edge effects that will not fray. Values to 25¢ yard, for **5c**

The range of patterns throughout is so extensive that you will have no difficulty in securing suitable designs for infants', children's or women's wear. The sale starts Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Don't fail to be there sharp on time.

The January Whitewear Sale Greets You With Newest Garments—Very Special Priced

WOMEN'S CAMBRIC GOWNS, pull-over style, embroidery around yoke, lace around sleeves, made of fine cambric. Lengths to 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 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THE SOCIAL SIDE OF CITY LIFE

EDITED BY PENELOPE

PERSONALS, MEETINGS, CLUB ACTIVITIES, WEDDINGS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

PHONE EIGHTER 134 OR 432

A. Fraser, of Edmonton, is a guest at the Fort Garry in Winnipeg.

Mrs. G. R. McCracken and daughter, Selina, of Regina, are returning to the city.

Mr. Trill, of the Calgary College Institute, is spending the holidays in town, the guest of Mrs. E. Lundy.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Price left Friday morning for the trip to Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Leamington, Crossman, have been spending a short time in town.

Mr. Walter Town has gone south for a short time.

Several little parties have been given in the city recently, the best given by the First Canadian Contingent (C.O.E.), the Macdonalds on Saturday. The parties are for patriotic purposes, the cheer having something to it.

Mrs. Vi. Smith has gone east to visit friends in Montreal, Ottawa and the Soo.

Intaglio is now on its way again, and it is expected to stay at home, possibly seem that some are spared just for the fun of it.

Mr. Harold Richards was the best guest at the annual dinner of the Retired Farmers Association in honour of Miss Gouin. The other guests included Mr. G. H. Ross, Mr. Bicker, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Nightingale, Madame Thibaudau, Mrs. F. G. Ross.

The Ladies' Capital Curling Club opened the season on Thursday afternoon with a real "go" game. The result was a tie, "captured" by the visitors, the players stirred with genuine excitement and enthusiasm by the spirit of the season. Mrs. Benson's rock, while Mrs. Earl Hartley skippered the "Home" team, and Misses Kinnaird and Anna Kinnaird were the winners. Both played against Miss Grace Abbott, Misses Dickins, Mrs. Muir and Mrs. Hugh Campbell were the tea hosts.

The first Monday of the month being the New Year's Day, the regular meeting of the Women's Aid of the

BURNS' SPECIALS!

BEEF	
Fine Rolling or Steaming,	8c
Choice Joint, per lb.	10c
Choice Roasts,	12c
per lb.	15c
Prime Rolled Roasts,	18c
per lb.	15c
Pancry Rump Roasts,	18c
per lb.	18c
Choice Round Steak,	18c

FORK

Trimmed Legs Pork,	
per lb.	20c
Fresh Trimmed Shoulder,	16c
per lb.	12c
Steaks,	12c
per lb.	11c
Fresh Spare Ribs,	11c
per lb.	10c
Loin Kidney,	10c
per lb.	10c

LAMB

Lamb	
per lb.	27c
Loin Roasts,	25c
per lb.	17c
Front Quarters,	10c
per lb.	10c

GAME

Chestnut Chukar Roasts and Steaks, per lb.	
30c	20c
per lb.	20c
Moose Roasts,	25c
per lb.	25c
Bear Chops, Steaks and Roasts, per lb.	25c

Also a large supply of fancy Turkey, Game, and hickories of reasonable prices.

P. Burns & Co. Limited

The Daily Poem

TRouble THAT NEVER CAME
I worry over this thing and I
worry over the atmosphere
that has cleared.

Oh, I like to start the evening with an apprehensive sigh,
For then I am safe, I am secure,
But I cannot help a thinking as to
what the world is going by.

What an awful lot of worry goes to waste!

Royal Alexander Hospital will be in All Saints' Schoolroom at 2 p.m.

Miss Black, 19th street, is in London, visiting friends.

Mrs. Florence Beers, of Mount Royal College, Calgary, and sister of Mrs. Macdonald, are spending a few days at the Norwood Methodist.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Pritchard, 117th 83th street, entertain about thirty young friends every evening.

The Sunday school in aid of the Canadian Retired Farmers Association was held last evening in the church.

Donations for the Relief fund, including the regular classes of school, were presented and accepted.

The program was as follows:

"A Christmas Crown" was a dialogue between Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Cook.

"A Christmas Carol" was a play in such a fashion as to give a fine opportunity for the girls to sing.

"The Christmas Dance" continued the entertainment.

"Tableaux" by ladies of Mrs. K. A. Armstrong.

"A Christmas Story" was a Biblical picture with very attractive and artistic effect.

The ladies in the audience were greatly enjoyed in the singing of Marion Jones, Irene Fraser, Laverne Ladd, Mrs. Congdon, Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Walker, and others.

The Rotary Club held a luncheon at the Macdonald Hotel last night.

Three hundred and three tickets were sold.

The number of about seventy-five men and women were in attendance, and which included a Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Chas. Hepburn, the Rotarians, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Carmichael, Ruth Patrik, Helen Patrik, and others.

Tableaux by ladies of Mrs. K. A. Armstrong.

"A Christmas Story" was a Biblical picture with very attractive and artistic effect.

The "Christmas Story" was a dialogue between Mr. and Mrs. Marion Jones, Irene Fraser, Laverne Ladd, Mrs. Congdon, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Walker, and others.

The Burns' Club contributed three numbers: "A Christmas Carol" by Misses Audra and Valerie Nels.

"A Christmas Story" was a dialogue between Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Carmichael, Ruth Patrik, Helen Patrik, and others.

"A Christmas Story" was a Biblical picture with very attractive and artistic effect.

The annual Christmas entertainment of the Highlands Methodist Sunday school was crowded in the church, which was crowded to the capacity.

The program took the form of a cantata, with the participation of young ladies, concerning an umbrella.

"The Dream Man" and "The Girl with the Gold Wings" were the highlights of the program.

A resolution of appreciation was presented to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. McSweeny, who was the conductor of the children, 50 of whom took part in the cantata, which was a great success.

Mr. McSweeny was the conductor of the program, the children receiving a resolution of appreciation at the close of the program.

The program was a great success, and if possible captures one of the best attendances.

The Sunday school was also entertained by the Macdonald Sunday school.

The Macdonald Sunday school received with applause, and a large audience.

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Cut Glass

Cut Glass makes a very useful and appropriate gift for the home at the holiday season.

ASH BROS.

Jewelers, Diamond Merchants
1012 Jasper Ave.

An Important Question

NOW IS THE TIME TO
THINK ABOUT IT—NOT
AFTER THE FIRE

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You Will Save Money
By Getting Our
Prices on

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before placing your orders and
before getting your prices. Send your
prices to Farmers and get
them at the lowest possible prices.

Write to Mr. R. J. Seymour
1122 52nd street, a daughter
of the late Mr. J. C. Seymour, at
Lumber Freight — Call at our
yards or write us for our
specifications. We supply
Shingles, Roofing, Siding, Doors,
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TEST CLOSES DEC. 30.**

AT 10:30 P. M.

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H. B. Kline & Sons, Ltd.

THE PHENIX JEWELERS

Corner Jasper Ave. and 9th Street.

Have Our Wagon

Call Daily!

Once You Get the Habit
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Hallier's Bread!

Good Taste Will Compel Its
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HURRY UP!

We still have customers waiting
to buy COON COATS.

Pan-Co-Vesta

First St. (Opp Royal George Hotel)

BORN

EDMONTON — On Thursday, 29th Inst., to Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Seymour 1122 52nd street, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Seymour, Quaker Chateau hotel, London, Eng., Mr. Gladys Irene Cavendish, the wife of Mr. R. H. Gray, a solicitor.

The Weather

FORECAST: FAIR AND WARMER
Temperatures Recorded at Edmonton

December 29th

Friday, December 29th

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PRINCIPAL HAPPENINGS OF PAST YEAR AT A GLANCE

Diary of 1916, Compiled Specially by Bulletin--Outstanding Events in Edmonton and World Centres

Diary of 1916, Compiled Specially by Bulletin---Outstanding Events in Edmonton and World Centres

Edmonton in 1916

JANUARY.

Throughout the world

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THIRD SECTION.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1916.

THIRD SECTION.

Edmonton's Financial Leaders Are Optimistic

Many More Savings Bank Accounts Than Year Ago

(By Mr. G. R. F. Kirkpatrick, manager of the Edmonton branch of the Imperial Bank.)

As the year 1916 draws to a close we can look back with a great sense of satisfaction to the steady improvement in business during the year; one has only to watch the weekly and monthly returns of the bank clearing houses to see the wonderful expansion in business that has been made, not only in Alberta, but in the Province of Canada—this is due to the manufacturing of munitions. But not so in Edmonton—we have no large munition factories, but notwithstanding this, general business is steadily improving.

A few years ago we were all apparently prospering; it was the year of the great crop, of the great harvest, of the great boom, etc. A large number of new buildings were under construction. The city was spending large sums in municipal enterprises. Speculation was the order of the day. Just as the reaction set in during the winter of 1913 and 1914, it was not until Edmonton began to feel the effects of the depression that business conditions began to steadily improve as it has done during the past year. While this year's crop does not compare with that of 1915, the high grade of grain more than compensates for the smaller yield. With the men in the country surrounding Edmonton prospering, the business of the city has also prospered. I look for the present improved conditions to continue, and while we still will confront the people of Canada after the war, I think Edmonton can look for a steady improvement, as business is on a much sounder foundation, and we are not dependent on the manufacturing of munitions for the present improvement in general.

Our greatest problem after the war will be to find employment for our returned soldiers. Those dependent now on the Patriotic Fund and their separation allowances should—if they are not already doing so—be encouraged to save, as when the war is over, come men will want to come into the market for the savings of the people of Canada. It has been very large during the past year; this also applies to the people of Edmonton, the number of individual savings bank accounts being very much larger than a year ago.

To those who have been unfortunate enough to have become entangled as the result of speculations, I can only say, as a result of my experience of over twenty-five years as a bank manager in Edmonton—during which time I have seen many booms and the consequent reaction following; when real estate, even on Jasper Avenue, could not be sold—“Don't worry, the future is bright.” For greater faith in the future of our city—to those I say, “Cheer up, look on the bright side; don't worry over past mistakes.” Edmonton has the country around it and to the back of it to make it a great business centre, and as the country fills up it is bound to become one; what Edmonton wants is more business and more people, and we are bound to get them, I firmly believe.

G. R. F. KIRKPATRICK.

Business Conditions Show Great Improvement Over Previous Year

(By Mr. G. W. Swaistland, manager of the Edmonton branch of the Union Bank.)

GENERAL business conditions for the year just ending have shown an improvement over those of 1915, and the financial position of the majority of the residents of Edmonton and the district has improved.

Merchants in the city report larger sales for the year. They have in many cases materially reduced their trade liabilities and also their stocks of merchandise, which were too heavy at the outbreak of war for present conditions.

Financially the property owners in the cities were the most seriously affected, as property owners are not in a position of getting sufficient revenue to pay the carrying charges on their property. It is most important that the cities should keep their expenses down to a minimum. By so doing they will not only help many unfortunate owners of mortgaged properties but will make city property more valuable. After peace is signed we can watch the great financial value of an increase in population in both the cities and the country. Naturally with an increase in population rental values will increase and thereby also the land values.

In the country the good crop and the districts have, owing to the unusually high prices of grain, given the farmers a very handsome return. Many of them as a result have either reduced mortgages, improved their buildings, etc., or placed money in the banks. The scarcity of labor is having, and apparently will continue to have, during the war a material effect on the acreage under cultivation.

The cost of living has increased very much during the past year. This is one of the discomforts brought about by the war. It is, however, no doubt being offset by the living of a simpler and quieter life, and the doing without of many luxuries which were so prevalent during the “normal” days.

Trade is gratifying and the large increase in bank deposits during the past year. It shows clearly the spirit of saving. The people are also showing more caution regarding investments, and are avoiding unnecessary borrowings.

While conditions are so unsettled in Europe one cannot speak on prospects for the coming year. We must, however, in order to help our cause, keep in mind two very important words, namely, “Production” and “Thrift.”

G. W. SWAISTLAND.

Gloom and Uncertainty Now Fast Disappearing

(By Mr. W. T. Creighton, Manager of the Canada Permanent Trust Co.)

THE Province of Alberta and the City of Edmonton in particular are to be congratulated in that, after a number of other years in the much improved conditions generally throughout the Province, the gloom and uncertainty which existed two or three years ago is fast disappearing and confidence in the future is again being restored. The abundant returns from the harvest of the past season has done much to restore confidence, and the satisfactory manner in which the farmers of the Province are meeting their obligations are indications that our prosperity is now on a firm basis.

W. T. CREIGHTON.

In Business Way Edmonton is Beginning to Turn Corner

(By Mr. J. J. Anderson, manager of the Edmonton branch of the Union Bank.)

FINANCIAL conditions show a distinct improvement over last year. A steady good crop with high prices has enabled farmers to meet their obligations promptly and save, but owing to a sharp shortage, they have not been able to sell their grain. Collectors of farm machinery accounts report several accounts paid this year that had been written off as no good. All business conditions dependent on the success of the farmer are in good shape. This is particularly true of the grain elevators, who are dependent on the farmer's trade, and Edmonton naturally feels the benefit of the improved conditions at the points whose business in considerable measure centres here.

Business conditions in the city have reached a sound basis. There is a less volume of trade than during the past year, but trade in grain and coal, lumber, and general and unusual merchandise have been well done. Stocks are carried in proportion to the business to be done. There is a hopeful outlook for all lines of legitimate business now established in the city.

The real estate situation is still to be overcome. Very little improvement has been shown during the year. Some real estate has been sold, but the market is still considerably below boom values. People desiring to establish homes, who have the money, are taking the opportunity that the dull real estate market affords. Other line of property register practically no residence purposes, and rentals are low, but good premises, especially for residence purposes, are in some demand and rentals tend to improve.

In a business way Edmonton is beginning to turn the corner, and would make a quick recovery were it not for the burdens left by the real estate boom, which still remain to be liquidated or readjusted.

J. J. ANDERSON.

MACHINERY BUSINESS IS SATISFACTORY

Collections Are Far in Advance of Last Year Say Local Dealers

No better indication of the general prosperity of the country comes in the way of that which comes from a report of the farm implement dealers on the year's operations. Therefore when the machinery as able to state, that they are in a position to do so, are in every line and that collections are far in advance of the results obtained during a similar period in 1915, there can be little fault found in 1916 as far as it concerns the farmer and those who cause the soil to produce.

Practically all the Edmonton machinery warehouses handle a full line of farm implements from threshing outfit to automobiles.

In all sections of the business there has been a steady demand, not excepting the gas tractors for general farm work, showing that labor saving devices are not only essential, but that the high crops and better prices enabled the farmer to pay for their purchase with a wider range of machinery, and this without undertaking financial obligations which were prohibitive or overwhelming in the past.

A further word as to the demand for farm implements of all kinds and farm equipment may be added, according to a number of the dealers, who state that the main difficulty was in obtaining a supply to keep up with the demand. Some of the dealers declare that they have disposed of a still greater quantity of farm equipment if the material could have been secured from the factories.

The Petrie Manufacturing Co., Ltd., specializing in cream separators and similar farm equipment, has been excellent and collections good. The manager, P. Wilson, says this business has been much better than in 1915 and prospects are equally good for another year.

The J. J. Case Co., which handles threshing outfit exclusively, reports that business has been better to date than during last year. The general collection agent in Edmonton, A. J. Braman, refers to the present situation, being at least equal to last year, and in fact since the season and grain movements have been delayed a full month.

The International Harvester Co., of which J. A. Brookbank is local manager, unhesitatingly declares that business is better than the district trade and on the look out for promising for 1917. “Business is certainly better than last year,” says Mr. Brookbank, “and collections are also rear.”

Massey-Harris Co. has found trade conditions about equal to 1915 with collections better. Throughout the season the demand has been stronger than the supply. “We have no reason to complain this year,” says H. Barker, the local manager. “Indications are good for 1917.”

The Tiduhope-Anderson Co. have had a fine run of business says the manager, J. R. Powell, and found business better than during 1915 with a steady improvement apparent. The demand for machinery has been backed by ready cash for the most part from farmers. The demand for slights at present strong.

The John Deere Co., according to the manager, J. R. Powell, has found business better than during 1915 with a steady improvement apparent. The demand for machinery has been backed by ready cash for the most part from farmers. The demand for slights at present strong.

The Cockshutt Plow Co. handles all kinds of machinery, except tractors, and has found it difficult to keep a supply equal to the demand during the latter part of the year, and closing. The manager, F. Pickles, says that the season in question has been very satisfactory and that prospects are excellent for the coming year.

Yours truly,
L. G. MACLIAFFIE.

No Longer Look at Business Conditions Through Blue Glasses

(By Mr. Hugh B. Anderson, manager of the Edmonton branch of the Bank of Ottawa.)

WITH regard to the present general condition of trade in the Edmonton district, it might be of more interest to you were I to call to your attention certain particular phases of the country's prosperity that have been brought to my notice during the past year. No doubt that Edmonton and its tributary districts have been to some extent blinded by the glasses through which they have been observing the business outlook during the past two years.

Edmonton was the last city in the West to at all lose heart in connection with a satisfactory business future, and we have now picked up our glasses and are looking again. I think we can now rest assured that our city has seen its lowest ebb as far as business is concerned, and that from now on conditions will materially improve.

The merchants as a whole report a very satisfactory Christmas trade, and, although business in some trades has not been as brisk as was expected, other lines report a much greater volume of business than they have experienced at any time since 1912. This, I think, can be explained by the fact that the private citizen during the past two years has been increasing his savings as he never did before. The natural tendency to hoard in a time of a fair sized bank account seems to be spending more freely when the occasion requires it. This, the spirit of Christmas, has been decidedly noticeable during the past two weeks in Edmonton.

Practically all the Edmonton machinery warehouses handle a full line of farm implements from threshing outfit to automobiles. In all sections of the business there has been a steady demand, not excepting the gas tractors for general farm work, showing that labor saving devices are not only essential, but that the high crops and better prices enabled the farmer to pay for their purchase with a wider range of machinery, and this without undertaking financial obligations which were prohibitive or overwhelming in the past.

These purchases were made by Americans who stayed right here in Edmonton, and no man was made. One of these gentlemen, in conversation with me as to likelihood of being able to purchase cabbages and turnips by the car load for shipment to Minneapolis, but our farmers not yet fully realizing the possibilities of the eastern markets, have not, up to the present, put themselves in a position to take advantage of this. The great possibilities lying behind the trade are apparent to all and I feel assured that in the near future our mixed farming will be given a great impetus by the requirements of the East.

HUGH B. ANDERSON.

Edmonton's Wholesale and Retail Trade Shows Gratifying Expansion

(By Mr. G. S. Hensley, Manager of the Edmonton Branch of the Bank of Montreal.)

EDMONTON can look back upon the year 1916 with satisfaction and a wave of optimism that is generally felt throughout the city, and this is a source of reassurance to everyone in the city, or perhaps I should more properly say to all those who feel the need of reassurance, that retail trade this season shows most gratifying expansion, in spite of the fact that we have not had the supporting element of mining, and, to a greater extent, of agriculture. Local tradesmen and manufacturers find the country demand increasing by leaps and bounds, and with payments well met, their main difficulties consist of the delays attendant upon the filling of their own orders for supplies due to the disturbed labor conditions which are prevalent at all eastern centres.

The farmers of our district have had, upon the whole, an excellent year, high prices for live stock and for all grains having more than offset what in some districts appeared to be disappointing results.

While it would seem that our business community is perhaps not yet altogether alive to the necessity of establishing trade connections with the Peace River country—now so accessible—or of course, to the west, and to the south, there is a hope that a more active development along these lines. Not alone must Edmonton look northwards for future greatness but also the proper settlement of vacant land nearby must receive every aid that is possible to devise.

Though war conditions have created a temporary prosperity in some sections of our country greater than anything we are experiencing, yet Edmonton is moving along sound economic lines, toward an assured future.

Let not one of us forget our primary duty in these days of the Empire's re-birth that we put forth all our efforts to make our citizenship of such a nature as will to some extent satisfy the duty we owe to our Community, our Province, our Country, and our Empire.

G. S. HENSLEY.

Present Conditions Are Not Such As To Warrant Pessimism

(By A. E. Scrase, Manager of Alberta of National Trust Co., Ltd.)

THIS year 1916, about to close, has been one of the most momentous in the history of the world, and from which we learn that the World War, far from suffering from financial stringency, has as a result of the boundless energy and the prices obtainable therefrom, been placed in a position where it is possible for the farming community to pay its liabilities, and by their doing place the business men in the same position.

Trade loan collections have been very well met, not only interest, but principal, and in a large number of cases opportunity has been taken of the financial conditions to pay off loans in their entirety.

Such conditions show that the basic industry of agriculture in the Province of Alberta is extremely healthy, and I look forward to a good and rapid expansion of business during 1917 to profit the Province, as not so fully believed by many, and such a condition as to warrant pessimism on the part of any of its citizens.

Alberta is an agricultural country, and to that and the cattle industry we must look for prosperity that is lasting, and in this connection there is no lack of capital awaiting to be used for those purposes.

A. E. SCRASE.

